A DECLARATION FROM HIS HIGHNESSE THE PRINCE OF WALES:

CONCERNING 13

THE ILLEGALL PROCEEDING OF

The COMMONS of ENGLAND.

AND

His Resolutions to endeavour the setlement of the ancient and knowne *Lawes* of the *Kingdome of* ENGLAND.

LONDON.

Printed in the yeare, 1648.

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FROM

HIS HIGHNESS

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PRINCE OF ORANGE;

CONCERNING

The Intended Proceeding

OF

The COMMONS of ENGLAND.

AND

His Resolutions to endeavour the Redemption of the ancient and known Liberty of the Kingdome of ENGLAND.

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A DECLARATION *from His Highnesse the Prince of* WALES, *&c.*

HAving *Religion* and *Reason* to guard my actions, I need not be timerous to declare My intentions; neither doe I intend to act any thing that shall infringe the *Subjects liberty*, or subject My self to that *illegall*, and never before heard of *Authority* which is lately crept out of the womb of *Faction*: I confesse I cannot accuse all, nor excuse some; those which I accuse are they which unjustly condemn'd My *royall Father*, whose bloud cannot be wash'd out of their spungious *soules* without an inundation of *repentance*; those which I excuse are they which really endeavoured the prevention of so great a mischief.

First, let us consider their *cruelty* in Imprisoning His *Person*.

Secondly, their *audaciousnesse* in bringing Him to an *unjust Triall*.

Thirdly, their *barbarousnesse* in Condemning Him without *Law* or *justice*, not permitting Him the liberty of *speech*.

I leave it to the world to judge whether these proceedings could be polished either with *Religion* or *justice*: or whether I (who have as great a portion of grief as any) can in justice wink at these *enormities*: no, I can-

not, nor will not; I am therefore resolved to hazard that which is most deare to Me, to recover and propagate the antient Lawes and Liberties of the *Kingdome of England*, whose *Crowne* I may, and will claime by *lawfull inheritance* in despight of those that pretend the greateſt *good* to the *Kingdome*, and intend the *leaſt*: they have already acted their parts; and now (God assisting Me) I will act Mine in opposing that *spurious offspring* which is now more *potent*, than *just*; Therefore let them expect and prepare themselves to heare the alarums of *justice* which shall suddenly rattle in their eares. I am well assured that My *Cause* is balanced with *justice*, and that all *unbribed hearts* will be assistant to My designe: I will not waſt so much time as to expostulate, or guild My intentions with plausible oratory; but with as much brevity as My cause will afford Me, declare the Reasons of My proceeding, which are as follow:

I.

First, it is sufficiently knowne that My *royall Father* (during the time of His Life) was alwaies willingly active to subscribe and condescend to any thing that was conducing to the peace and welfare of the Kingdome, and without any sinister ends agreed to a *Personall Treaty* with His two Houses of *Parliament*, protesting (and at last sealed His protestation with His bloud) that nothing was more predominant in His thoughts than the preserving of His *Subjects Liberties, and the Priviledges of Parliament*; the reality of which, His last *Declaration* from the *Isle of Wight* doth abundantly manifest.

II.

Secondly, after His Concessions were voted *Satisfactory*, yet they were disavowed by that *pregnant* and *pernitious* Party of *Independents*, who endeavour to enervate

vate *Monarchy* by the advancing *Democracy*, and to regulate the *Kingdome* according to their owne unlimited desires.

III.

Thirdly, did not the *Army* under the Command of Generall *Fairfax* proteſt and covenant to maintaine the *Priviledges of Parliament*, and now have deviated from their *Proteſtations* by their late *barbariſme* perpetrated on them, by *Impriſoning*, and ſubjugating thoſe that were their firſt *Maſters*, and all this for the *Liberty of the Subject*; if theſe things can be conſonant either to *Law*, or *juſtice*, let the world judge?

IV.

Laſtly, did they not promiſe to make My *royall Father a glorious King*, whom they have inhumanely *murder'd* by a new-bred *authority* of their owne inſtituting, and warpe their *Proteſtations* by the fire of their owne ambitious deſires, pretending to prevent great *miſchiefs* by enacting *greater*?

Theſe, and other *abominations* under which the *land* groanes are ſufficient motives to incite My reſolutions, and draw the world about their eares, and I hope all Chriſtian Princes (after they are fully acquainted with the particulars of My deſignes) will be ready to afford Me their timely aſſiſtance, by which they ſhall engage Me hereafter to ſhew My ſelf ready in the performance of any thing which ſhall conduce to their *peace* and *welfare*.

I muſt now declare My ſelf to the world that I am an abſolute *Enemy* to the proceedings of thoſe that title themſelves the *Commons of England*, and am reſolved (by the grace of God) to imploy the uttermoſt of My endeavours to reduce them to their former *Lawes*, or

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else subvert *them*, and their *Adherents*; It is well known with what milde importunities my *Royall Father* accosted them, and yet could not woe them into an *accommodation*. 'Tis not unknown with what unfained alacrity He declared (even at His death) that He valued His *Subjects Liberty* more then His own *Life*; and yet all these expressions made no impression in their obdurate hearts; therefore I am confident that it is impossible to conquer them with any language, but the language of the *Sword*, with which I intend suddenly to treat; and I protest, that I will not willingly injure any that shall desert them, or are already oppugnant to their wicked *Designes*, but will with my *Life* and *Fortune* protect them; and they that will in time repaire to me shall be respected, and rewarded for their *Loyalty*.

I further declare, that I am free from the thoughts of inducing any *tyrannicall or arbitrary Government*, or breaking the *Priviledges of Parliament*, or infringing *the Subjects Liberty*; but will absolutely endeavour to re-establish the *ancient and knowne Lawes of the Land*; for the effecting whereof, I shall desire all *really hearts* to shew their readineſſe in promoting so acceptable a *work*, and joyntly pray with Me, that God would prosper our designes, that we may once more sit under our *vines*, and our *fig-trees*, and eat the fat of our *land* in *peace*, and unmolested *tranquility*.

FINIS.